

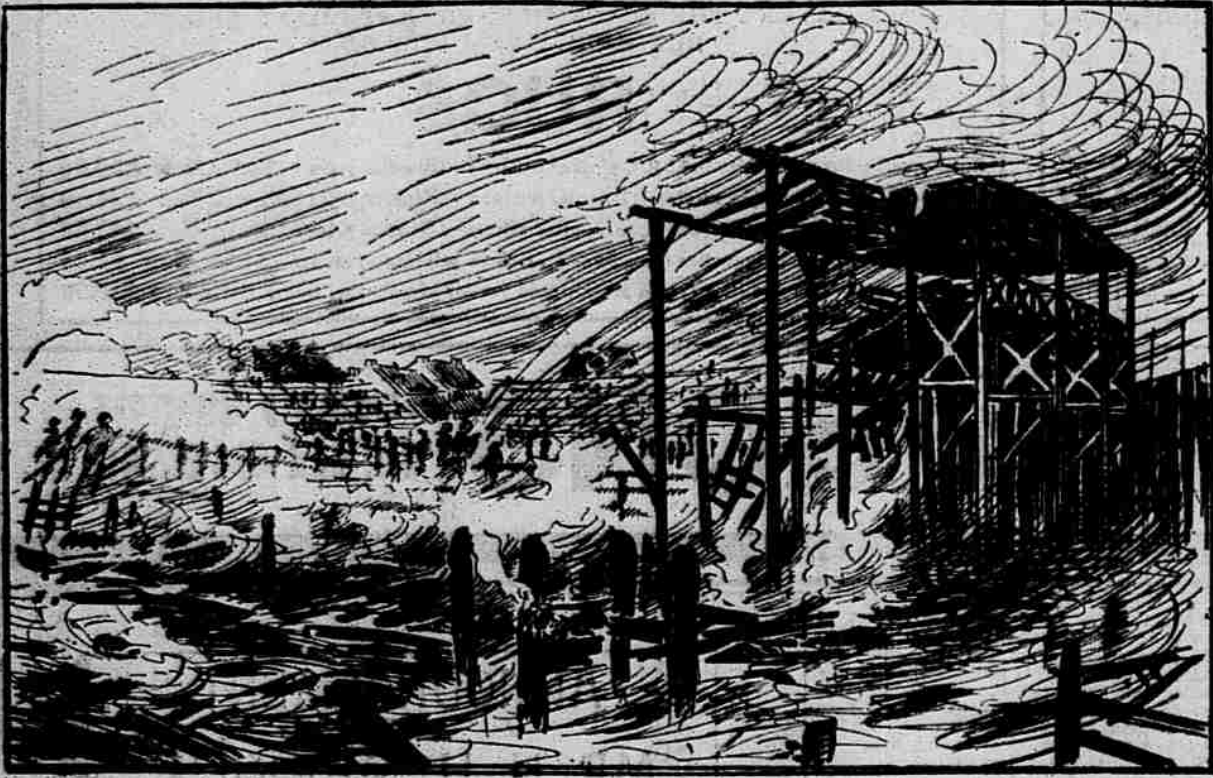
NINETY-THIRD YEAR.

ST. LOUIS, MO., SUNDAY, MAY 5, 1901.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

## FIRE IN GRAND STAND AT LEAGUE PARK YESTERDAY PUTS CROWD IN PANIC.

Seven Thousand Spectators Wrought to a High Pitch by Exciting Baseball Game When Blaze Begins—Many Barely Escape Alive, but No One Is Badly Hurt.



RUINS OF THE GRAND STAND AT LEAGUE PARK AS THEY APPEARED AN HOUR AFTER THE FIRE YESTERDAY AFTERNOON.

—Sketched by a Republic Artist.

### PROMINENT PERSONS IN THE GRAND STAND.

Among prominent persons seen in the grand stand when the fire broke out were John F. Roegner, Doctor Otto E. Forster, Dave Nicholson, Jack Tennet, and Mrs. Tennet, Robert Aull, William Medart, Benjamin F. Edwards, Frank Nagel, Bernard Allison, Fred Zimmerman, Robert Chambers, Paul Schroeder, Bert Hansen, A. P. DeCamp, H. R. Hawkins, Ben Moffett, G. W. Lewis, E. T. Williams, Doctor Patten, Charles McCormack, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Coudet, A. G. Roby, Joseph Huss, Miss

Any Opel, Miss Myra Opel, Miss Rumsay, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Nolker, Miss Belle Guthrie, Mr. and Mrs. William Compton, Charles M. Pratt, Miss McClanahan, Ed Noonan, Tom Hennings, William Lawrence, H. C. Townsend, Walter Townsend, John Delle, W. B. Homer, J. R. Daugherty, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ware, Sylvester Von Phul, Trubue Pittman, D. W. Andrews, C. W. Mansur, Harry Schroeder, William Cowan, Harry Beardsley, G. S. Tebbetts, A. A. Allen.

## BADLY HURT IN A RUNAWAY, OFFICER HOLDS TO PRISONER.



Signal Officer Taylor, when the team of the patrol wagon ran away and the driver left the vehicle, held to his prisoner, a mulatto girl accused of theft, until they were thrown to the ground and help came.

Seriously injured by the overturning of a patrol wagon in which he was conducting a negro woman to the Four Courts yesterday, Signal Officer Andrew Taylor of the Ninth District held to his prisoner in spite of her struggles and his suffering until assistance came.

Taylor's prisoner was Mary Scates, a negro, who was arrested Friday night on a charge of stealing a lot of wearing apparel from Mrs. Nellie Howard of No. 512 Washington avenue. It was shortly after 5 o'clock when the wagon reached Seventh and Washington avenue. A collar on one of the horses became unfastened and fell to the street. The team became frightened and ran south in Robbins Lane at full tilt. Thomas Moran, the driver, became alarmed at being unable to check the progress of the horses and leaped to the street.

Mary Scates screamed at the top of her voice and struggled to free herself from the officer, but he held to her. At the inter-

section of St. Charles street the horses turned short around the corner and the wagon was overturned. Taylor and the woman were thrown, rolling over and over in the street. Taylor was severely hurt. The Scates woman attempted to take advantage of his injury, but he held her until the arrival of Moran, who had escaped injury. Moran summoned the patrol wagon from the Central District, and all of them were conveyed to the City Dispensary.

Doctor Vogel found Taylor's injuries to consist of two broken fingers of the right hand, a sprain of the right arm, a sprain of the left wrist and a scalp wound over the right eye. An ambulance then conveyed him to his home at No. 408 Maple avenue. Doctor Vogel said he might have sustained internal injuries.

Mary Scates, who is a bright, intelligent girl, was employed as a servant by Mrs. Howard on April 2.

She had been installed in the house she occupied and wearing apparel valued at \$150 afterwards missing. A warrant charging petit larceny has been issued against her.

While 7,000 spectators were watching the most exciting game the St. Louis Baseball Club has played at League Park this season at 5:05 o'clock yesterday afternoon fire was discovered in the center of the grand stand under the main stairway, near the press box, and in twenty minutes the grand stand, pavilions and offices of the proprietors of the local team were totally destroyed.

When the alarm of fire was cried out by a thousand persons in the frame structures, crowds of men, women and children rushed pell-mell down stairways or jumped from the grand stand into the ball park, or dropped or jumped from the upper platform of the stand to the ground. But, despite the crowding and pushing, a few cool heads prevented a general panic and though there were many narrow escapes nobody was injured.

President Robison last night made arrangements with the management of Athletic Park, Grand and Sullivan avenues, by which the St. Louis team will play all scheduled games there until the grand stand at League Park is rebuilt.

**JOCKEY CLUB IS EXHAUSTED BY FLAMES.**

The wooden stands burned like tinder and a strong wind from the southeast fanned the flames. When the fire was hottest the flames leaped in tongue shapes fifty and one hundred feet in air, and burning brands were carried by the wind fully a mile to the northwest. Directly in the lee of the burning grand stand was the house of the Jockey Club. The heat was so great that the windows of the clubhouse were cracked, and at one time a porch on the south side of the building was ignited.

But this was extinguished, and though the fences surrounding the Fair Grounds were partly destroyed and awnings were burned, the clubhouse and grand stand of the St. Louis Fair Association were saved. The game was at its climax when the grand stand started to burn. It was in the last half of the tenth inning and the score was tied at four runs. There were no outs. Wallace had singled. Kruger was at bat, and the crowd was worked up to the highest pitch of enthusiasm.

**WATCHMAN RIFE WARNS THE CROWD.**

At this moment Samuel Rife, chief of the private watchmen at League Park, who was one of the first to discover the blaze, cried aloud from the top of the grand stand that the structure was on fire. Just then the flames, which had been smoldering in the woodwork under the grand stand, burst upward. Startled by Rife's announcement, the attention of the crowd was diverted from the game, and the visible proof of the truth of the watchman's statement met their eyes.

Many rushed for the staircases and made their escape outside the ball park before the fire had made headway. A few hung from the top platform of the grand stand and dropped to the ground, but the majority, since the grand stand was already choked with smoke, endeavored to get from the stand to the field, as this seemed to offer the most direct avenue of escape.

Many gentlemen who were in the boxes and others acquitted themselves gallantly in assisting ladies and children to jump from the stand into the field.

**WOMEN PROSTRATED FROM PANIC CROWD.**

When those occupying the upper seats in the grand stand began to crush downward upon those below, many of the gentlemen in the boxes interposed. Among them were H. C. Townsend, Alexander Pierce, Will Pierce, Albert Edwards, Colonel C. E. Ware, who accompanied ladies, and Will Simkins, Walter B. Townsend, Frank McEwing, Brainerd Ellison, Frank Hammett and Warren Chandler. They warned the crowd that there was plenty of time, and that by a panic-stricken, disordered light many would be needlessly injured. Their advice was heeded in part.

Patrick J. Gaffney, Captain of the Ninth Police District, was at the ball game and was in the grand stand when the fire commenced. He immediately assumed command of the police at the park, who numbered about twenty, and his force did effective work in preventing injuries.

At one time, when the fire was burning fiercely, many of the crowd who had escaped to the field, thought to make their way from the grounds by passing between the grand stand and the fence of the grounds. They attempted to do this in many cases, and the police, to prevent them, were forced to daringly expose themselves to the scorching heat.

**TWENTY-FIVE ENGINES CALLED TO SCENE.**

J. M. Murphy, private watchman at

## GREAT COMBINES TO UNITE IN ONE.

Carnegie Says That Plans Are Under Way for a Trust of Trusts.

Paris, May 4.—J. Pierpont Morgan and Andrew Carnegie had a conference at Aixles Bains to-day. In an interview Mr. Morgan said that a commercial coalition against the United States by European countries was not possible, because there are too many conflicting interests.

Andrew Carnegie said that combinations were only in their infancy.

"All these consolidations," said Mr. Carnegie—"railroads, steamships and steel—are steps in advance of a great movement which will distinguish the Twentieth Century. This unification of transportation by sea and land marks genuine progress.

"Hereafter American railway lines will be of one interest from Atlantic to Pacific and one man in New York can fix through rates to meet the situation.

"In a short time railways will own steamship lines on the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans and thus transportation over land and sea can be consolidated."

It is highly probable that Mr. Carnegie had in mind the conferences which were held in New York in 1898, looking to gigantic consolidations, and which is now made possible by the absorption of the Burlington Railway by J. J. Hill and J. P. Morgan.

These consolidations portend a merger of the Vanderbilt-Morgan-Hill-Gould railroads, and this combination is likely to be announced in the very near future.

## TO BE READY WHEN SITE IS SELECTED.

Committee on Organization of Louisiana Purchase Exposition Company Plans to Avoid Delay.

### PRELIMINARY WORK IN SHAPE.

Directors May Appoint Committee on Site at Next Meeting—Letters From all Parts of World Received.

The Committee of Organization, appointed by the Directors of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition Company at their first meeting, was in session for more than two hours yesterday afternoon. Nothing definite was given out as to the nature of the debate, or to what action the committee had taken on the various important matters on which it will report to the Board of Directors at its meeting next Wednesday. President D. R. Francis says that nothing will be made public until after the Directors' meeting.

Considerable data is in the hands of the committee, and the members are concentrating their efforts on formulating a plan which will avoid delay and enable the committee to proceed with the greatest possible speed once the site is selected. An outline of this plan will be laid before the Board of Directors at its next meeting.

Numerous inquiries have been received at the temporary offices of the company in the Mercantile Club building, as to when the matter will be taken up, and it will be part of the business of Wednesday's meeting. It is impossible at the present time to forecast when the site will be selected, but it is expected that at the next meeting of the Board of Directors a committee will be appointed, which will go to work immediately after its appointment.

**Committee for Site Location.**

"After the appointment of the Site Committee," he said, "it is probable that several weeks will elapse before any location is determined upon. The committee will have endless work to do after carefully looking into all the possible sites within the city limits one of the locations will be determined upon. Then the committee will call in and consult experts on building, drainage, grading, transportation, real estate and the like, and get from them estimates of time, cost and labor which will be required in getting the property into shape to receive a world's fair."

"All these details will be contained in the committee's report to the Board of Directors. That body will then either accept or reject the report. If the site is accepted by the board it will then be ready for approval or rejection by the Louisiana Purchase Exposition Commission. If the commission accepts it, the site will be publicly announced and soon thereafter as possible the grounds will be formally dedicated. In the event of the rejection of the site by the commission, the matter will go to a committee of arbitration, the decision of which latter body is final, and no appeal can be taken from it. The Arbitration Committee will consist of two members of the Board of Directors, two Commissioners, and a fifth member, appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury. The members of the National Commission, while in St. Louis, were unanimous in signifying their desire to act in perfect harmony with the local management, and it is not probable that the site matter will have to go to arbitration, which would cause unnecessary delay."

Interest is manifested in what other committees and departments will be created and as to the probable heads of the latter. The report of the Committee on Organization, which consists of the President, the eight Vice Presidents and Treasurer of the company, will give considerable, if not complete information on this subject. Until this is ready no one can give even a reasonable guess.

**Harmon Will Prevail.**

It is the intention of the board to avail itself of the knowledge and experience of former world's fairs, and dispense with any and all committees, officials and employees which tended to cause friction and retard progress. "Our desire," said Treasurer William H. Thompson, "is to have the entire management run as smoothly as a piece of well-oiled machinery. We do not want any unnecessary cogwheels and piston rods to delay matters."

**Rowing Season Opens To-Day.**

At the regular monthly meeting of the Western Rowing Club last night the committee reported everything in readiness for to-day's opening of the rowing season in St. Louis.

There will be four races, as follows: Single sculls, distance mile and one-half, with turn.

Four-oared shell, distance one mile and a half, with turn. Western only.

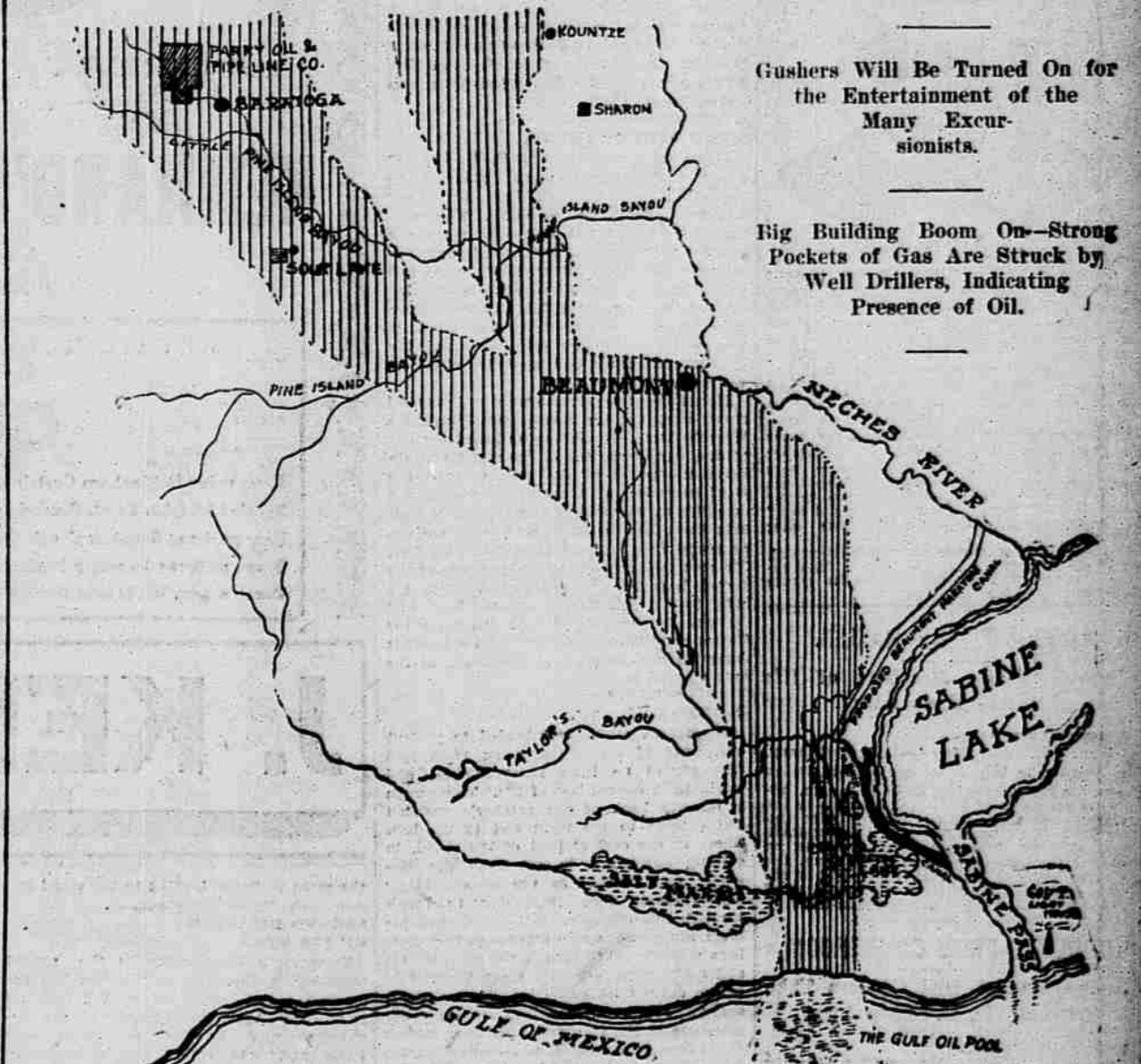
Six-oared barge race, open to all the local rowing clubs; distance three-quarters of a mile; straightaway, upstream.

All crews wishing to enter this race must report to Captain Frank Dunbar (Western), not later than 3 o'clock, to draw for well-oiled machinery. We do not want any unnecessary cogwheels and piston rods to delay matters."

**Selection of School Teachers.**

**REPUBLIC SPECIAL.**  
Browning, Mo., May 4.—The Browning School Board met last night and selected the following teachers for the ensuing year: Principal, J. C. Winters; assistant principal, J. C. Winters; grammar department, Joseph Nickel; intermediate department, W. F. Alexander; primary department, Florence Clark; teacher, Clark Thorp.

## THOUSANDS OF VISITORS WILL THROG BEAUMONT FIELDS TO-DAY.



Gushers Will Be Turned On for the Entertainment of the Many Excursionists.

Big Building Boom On—Strong Pockets of Gas Are Struck by Well Drillers, Indicating Presence of Oil.

MAP SHOWING DELINEATION OF THE SOUTHEAST TEXAS OIL BELT.

### FACTS ABOUT THE CITY OF BEAUMONT.

Normal population is about 12,000.

Five railroads enter the city.

The Neches, a navigable river, passes through the city.

One lumber company does enough business to sustain the normal population.

Surrounding the city is one of the richest rice-growing countries of the world.

The value of this product alone reaching \$750,000 last year.

Hundreds of beautiful homes line well-shaded streets.

There is an abundance of timber.

Temperatures is somewhat high during the day, but is cooled by Gulf breezes toward evening.

Port Arthur, with excellent salt water surf bathing, is but sixteen miles distant, and Sabine Pass, with the same attraction, thirty miles.

The capital stock is \$5,000,000. J. L. LaPrelle is second vice president.

**Miscellaneous on the Grounds.**

Other Missourians who are on the ground here to-day are State Senator John F. Morton of Ray County, G. B. Burbee, member of the Democratic State Central Committee from Joplin; Martin Gaudin and a party from Saline County; Walter Lamph, an attorney of Warrensburg and J. A. Drummond, also of Warrensburg.

Thomas B. Love, formerly secretary of the Democratic State Central Committee and now a resident of Dallas, Tex., has been here two weeks, and in that time is reported to have struck it rich in oil lands.

He has organized several companies and is also trading. Senator Morton is enthusiastic about the new oil fields, and expresses the opinion that they have opened up a marvelous source of wealth. Drummond has been very fortunate in his investments, his land holdings having quadrupled in value since he acquired them. His brother, J. H. Drummond, is the owner of thousands of acres of property, which is counted as oil land. Senator Morton has telegraphed to friends in Missouri conveying his idea of the situation here as already indicated.

It was reported in Beaumont this afternoon that gas had been struck in the Spindle Top well, which is being bored in the D. H. Hanger survey northwest of the town. If this is true, it is most important, as the Hanger property is four miles from Spindle Top Hill, where all the gushers have been developed. Spindle Top is southeast of Beaumont. Gas is usually a pretty good indication of oil. If oil is found in the Hanger well it is hard to estimate how far the increased values of land in this vicinity will extend. The Hanger drill is said to be down 600 feet. The oil pool, according to reports obtained on Spindle Top, lies somewhere more than 1,000 feet beneath the surface.



Entrance to Crosby House, showing the crowds; traders in the street and boy selling maps of the oil region. The hotel is besieged with visitors.

—Photograph by Corbis.